

APOSTOLIC SIGN GIFTS: ARE THEY FOR OUR DAY?



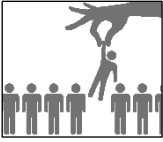
Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, PA
Sunday, May 22nd, AD 2022

The LORD'S Day

The Twenty-second Day of May, *in the Year of our Lord* 2022

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!

Sunday School—9:30 AM.



As a sub-series within our larger series on Church History, we begin to examine the **Doctrine of Divine Election**, which became a major issue of contention in the 5th Century AD.

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:* *"Praise God From Whom all Blessings"* (#554).

Invocation.*

Hymn: *"At the Cross"* (#153).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: I Cor. 14:18-23.

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Hymn: *"On Jordan's Stormy Banks"* (#511).

Announcements.

Hymn: *"Shall We Gather at the River"* (#510).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *"MIRACULOUS SIGN GIFTS: ARE THEY FOR TODAY?"*

Closing Hymn:* *"Face to Face"* (#520).

Benediction.*

**The Congregation will please arise, if able.*



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Downloadable audio mp3 messages at archive.org (@reesetpje)

Also check out our YouTube Channel (search "Terry Reese")!

Camp Mantowagan website: <https://www.campmantowagan.com>



Week of May 15-21

Sunday School—6; Morning Worship—12

Midweek—4; Church Offering: \$1,396.⁰⁰

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study—6:30 PM.

Our studies in **Daniel 4** continue as a promised judgment falls!

Today's Verses for Reflection:

"Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away."— 1 Cor. 13:8-10 (NASB)

AFRICA UPDATE (5/18/22)

Dear beloved brethren,

After an arduous trip and many obstacles pastor Salomon has finally reached Burkina Faso to minister to pastor Roger Yoda's family after the death of Roger's mother. Pray for open doors and hearts for pastor Salomon.

Also Pastor Roger is in Cotounou in Benin. He is pursuing an open door for the CGBCI to plant churches there. Pray for a successful mission endeavor. He and Salomon will meet back up on Saturday in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (where Roger's family lives) and they plan to travel back to Cameroon next week.

Thanks again as always for your gifts and prayers.

God bless, Keith

Miraculous Apostolic Sign Gifts: “Are they for today?”

By Pastor Terry L. Reese, Valley GBC of Armagh, PA

The rise of the modern Charismatic Movement within the 20th Century has created a great deal of confusion in this matter, as this popular expression of the modern Church claims that certain ***miraculous sign-gifts*** (e.g., tongues, miracles, prophecies, signs & wonders, healings, etc.) are still to be entertained as *normative*—or at least, *viable and permissible*—for this present post-Apostolic era. This position is *not accurate*, however, in that such flamboyant sign-gifts and ministries—which were never anticipated to be *universal*, even in Apostolic Times (cf., 1 Cor. 12:30)—were ***uniquely distinctive of the foundational ministry of the Apostles*** (Eph. 2:20). Such sign-gifts were thus to cease with the completion of the Canon (1 Cor. 13:8-10) and the close of the ministry of the *Apostles*—whose divinely appointed commission such miraculous signs were *specifically designed to supernaturally authenticate*.

2 Cor. 12:12: “The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.”

It is also of interest to note that within the last and final witness of the Apostolic Era, the *Johannine Corpus* (i.e., the Gospel of John, the three Epistles of John, and Revelation), there is found *no mention of such activities*. We also note that the writers of the very next Church Age, that of the Early Church Fathers (AD 100-325), commonly regarded such miraculous activity as being something that was uniquely characteristic of the *earlier Apostolic time*—as opposed to something that represented the living reality of *their own era*.

In light of the above, it should come as no surprise that the fundamentalist founders of our modern Grace Brethren Movement were solidly ***cessationist*** with regard to their understanding of such miraculous Apostolic sign gifts. The Apostles have laid the foundation; the Bible is now complete. No further prophecy can be added to it (Rev. 22:18). AMEN!